



Open Space Committee

Date: Thurs, October 27, 2022

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Present: : Ann LeRoyer, David Morgan, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, David White, Wendy Richter, Emily Nink, Brian McBride, Brian Kelder

Absent: Shirley Canniff, Teresa DeBenedictis, Eliza Hatch

Agenda

1. OSC Administration

- a. D. Morgan said that minutes of the September 22, 2022, meeting would be available for the next meeting.
- b. D. Morgan summarized his proposal for the OSC budget planning for FY24, which included funding for a survey of the stewardship networks in town and for an assessment of vacant Town-owned parcels for open space potential. E. Carr-Jones noted that Recreation was reconvening the Friends of Parks Group, which would be a good complement to the stewardship survey. B. McBride suggested the Land Stewards would be another set to consider. E. Nink said that the assessment of potential open spaces should go beyond existing conditions and consider slope, exposure, and other factors. D. Morgan agreed and offered to bring the idea to the consultant who is ultimately selected. A. LeRoyer asked whether the printing costs were needed. D. Morgan said he wanted to give Town staff copies and raise the profile of the Open Space Committee's work. B. Kelder offered that the additional funds gave the budget added flexibility. B. McBride suggested hosting an event with Town staff when the plan is finished to distribute copies and establish priorities. D. White motioned to approve the budget. B. McBride seconded. All were in favor.

2. Open Space and Recreation Plan 2022-2029 Update

- a. D. White introduced a plan for raising the profile of Picture Post locations (including new signage) and adding new sites. E. Carr-Jones shared details of the new signage, which will be aluminum and based on the Picture Post template. A. LeRoyer wondered whether funding would be needed for further signage. D. White suggested having volunteers install the signs. E. Carr-Jones asked whether the group would favor her and D. White presenting the proposal to the Park & Rec Commission on November 8th, all agreed.

- b. D. Morgan said he would investigate when DPW plans curb cuts for open space accessibility.
- c. A. LeRoyer suggested setting a priority for the coming year of making the Town's data on open spaces more consistent amongst plans, databases, and so on. Similarly, A. LeRoyer suggested rezoning open spaces as such (e.g., rezoning Mt. Pleasant Cemetery from R1 to OS).

3. CPA Project Updates

- a. D. Morgan said that bids were coming in for Cooke's Hollow and Mt. Gilboa, and that the deadline for applications for both projects had been extended one week.
- b. A. LeRoyer mentioned that a public meeting about the redesign of Robbins Farm Park was upcoming on the 14th of November.
- c. B. McBride said that the CPA Committee had posted materials about the preliminary applications that were filed for FY24. The Hill's Hill proposal from Recreation did not eliminate the pump track from the CPA request.

4. 40B Comprehensive Permit Applications

- a. A. LeRoyer asked whether the committee wanted to submit a comment letter for 1021-1025 Mass Ave. Several concerns were raised, including tree removal and public access, and D. Morgan agreed to relate these to the Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development along with the news that the Committee did not intend to draft a letter at this time.

5. Other News/Discussion

- a. D. Morgan said that the Public Land Management Plan would be discussed in a public forum, date TBD.
- b. E. Carr-Jones motioned to endorse the Gas Leaks Task Force resolution to the Select Board calling on National Grid to commit to repair dates for major natural gas leaks in Arlington. E. Nink seconded. All were in favor.

6. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.

2022 Meeting Dates (4th Thursday except Nov and Dec) November 10, December 8